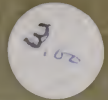




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BEFORE THE
Lebanon County Historical Society

ON
JUNE 16, 1899

“The Origin and Significance of Our
Township Names.”

BY LEE L. GRUMBINE, ESQ.,
LEBANON, PA.

Vol. 1. No. 7

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"The Origin and Significance of Our Township Names."

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We are accustomed to be told that in the New England states the town or township is the first and important political unit, and in the South it is the county; while in the intermediate sections and in the West, the growth or organization of the smaller political communities was a haphazard process resulting from a commingling of the two systems, the powers and functions of the county and township being less sharply drawn and more evenly balanced between them. Strained arguments are tortured out of mere accidental circumstances to prove the greater intrepidity of spirit, the stronger political independence, the stouter love of individual freedom, or the superiority of the descendants of one race over the other, according as the township or the county may have taken a real or fancied priority, either in time, or in the exercise of political power. One must not be too dogmatic in his historical generalizations. Accident is a great maker of history. The process has been very much the same the world over, from the beginning of history until now.

All political history in fact is but the grinding process of two great forces struggling between the right of the individual on the one hand, and of the sum of individuals on the other. The real political unit is not the county, nor the township, but the individual person. It is historically no more correct to say that the states are divided into counties and counties into townships and townships composed of individual citizens, than it is to say that individuals made communities, communities made townships and counties, and townships and counties made states and nations. In some cases the first process prevailed; in others it was reversed. It all depends on the ascendancy which the one or the other of these forces may be exercising at the time; and both township and county, and even states, provinces and lesser kingdoms occupy now the one position, now the other, at one time representing and guarding the smaller local right against the encroachment of the larger centralized power of the national government, at the other representing and conserving the larger right of the community as distinguished from that of the single citizen. All intermediate political organizations are only relative, and not much can be generalized by way of scientific historical principle. The township, county and state are in turn local and general in their character; local with reference to the next political organization above,—general or common to the next political unit below.

Nor is there any definite order in their establishment.

There is a certain fanciful theory with reference to the origin of political organization, which assumes that at one time men existed in an absolute state of independence from each other, or what the law-writers call a state of nature, when they may be conceived to have held some imaginary convention, and actuated by

their wants and fears they entered into a mutual contract for a common protection. That up to this point they possessed the absolute power of acting as each saw fit, without any restraint or control except by the laws of nature; that this natural liberty of mankind was one of the gifts of God to man at his creation, inherent in him from birth, a part of which only was voluntarily given up by each one when he entered this compact of society, as a consideration for the benefits of mutual protection and the enjoyments of social intercourse; reserving however certain rights, namely the three primary, ultimate, absolute and inalienable rights of personal security, personal liberty and the right of private property; otherwise designated more felicitously as the rights of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," which no exigencies of the state could ever compel him to give up. We have here the germ of the political philosophy of Grotius as developed into the social compact of Pufendorf, Locke and Jefferson. Perhaps such implied contract underlies every family, tribal or political relationship. No two individuals can exist together without exerting a mutual influence upon each other. They cannot both occupy the same place, possess the same property, exercise precisely the same rights, or enjoy the same privileges. To settle upon a rule of action between them is to exercise the power of sovereignty. One is an individual; two or more are the state. The family is but a miniature state in which the act of sovereignty is exercised by the parents; and it may be conceived that in the natural order the township preceded the county, as the family preceded the tribe, and the tribe the larger community of state and nation. As the race primarily developed under conditions of comparative barbarism, before there was a very high social order, this was probably the method. Common needs, common fears, common interests called for common provision, common protection, common effort. Where this natural order of development prevailed it may be assumed that the township preceded the county and the state; and the local government probably maintained its supremacy; but where there were violent political revolutions and conquests, as indeed where have there not been such? it frequently happened that the order was reversed, and that as in England the shire or county absorbed the townmoot, and as in Germany the "Gau", or land of the whole tribe gained supremacy over the "Mark", or land of the village. "It is written", according to Spencer, "that King Allured, or

Alfred who then reigned, did divide the realm into shires, and the shires into hundredthes, and the hundredthes into rapes or wapentakes, and the wapentakes into tithings, Soe that ten tithethings made an hundredthe and five made a lathe or wapentake."

The process of addition, division and silence in reference to public and private property is not new in history. The English word for county which is "shire" means a *share* of the spoil, and our sheriff is derived from "shire-reeve," the reeve or overseer of the shire, while the lord of the shire himself was first known by the Danish word "earl", afterwards by the Latin word "count".

Now it is with names that we have to do in this paper.

It may be true in poetry as well as in the prosaic affairs of everyday life, that there is nothing or very little in a name, and that "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet". It is however equally true that the name rose, having been associated with a sweet-smelling flower, even tho the name should become obsolete or the flower extinct, will always have a sweeter historical fragrance than the

stink-weed or the skunk-cabbage. In the retrospect of history if nowhere else names do mean something. The name township itself is said to be derived from the word "tun", signifying hedge, fence, or enclosure, and indicating that the primitive township, if it could be enclosed with a hedge or a fence was territorially rather insignificant, and worthy only of the contempt of the modern expansionist, tho doubtless, it, too, performed its humble part in the subterfuge of a covetous "destiny".

In the German word "Markgraf" we read the story of the German township. He was the petty lord or governor of a German "Mark", or march, or border, that is, the land within the border, or the township. He was called a "Graf", because he was, theoretically at least, supposed to be able to write, from the Greek "graphein". We have the same superior distinction in "Landgraf", "Burggraf", and "Palsgraf". The man who could write was a leader in those days as he is to-day. In England they may have called him a *dux*, or duke, in France a marquis. After the Norman conquest earls began to be called counts.

In the new world, while the township may have been bodily transplanted in a few instances before any higher government was organized, and its local rights and privileges and powers to a certain extent preserved, and while townships, as in the case of our own Lebanon, in many instances preceded the present county organizations, the fact is, that what might theoretically be called the natural order of political development from the individual to the state, was in most instances reversed, and political organization proceeded from the state to the individual. Men came and took possession of the land and formed settlements in the name of the mother country. They did not settle together as so many individual units, organize themselves into a community which grew into an independent local government, that presently sought association and union with similar independent local settlements, and thus became amalgamated into a larger whole, whether county, state or nation. The larger general government for the most part had already anticipated the other. And while as Pennsylvania-Germans we delight to trace our descent from the bearded sons of Thuiscon with their "fierce blue eyes" and to consider the Fatherland as the fountainhead of our civil liberty, the consideration of the relative growth of centralized power with the parallel development of our local and individual rights, in candor and truth compel certain wholesome reflections, to wit:

1. That the loyal and redoubtable subjects of Kaiser Wilhelm, so hedged about in their ordinary affairs of everyday life with the arbitrary control of the Polizei that they scarce dare turn around in bed without a police regulation are hardly the people to give us lessons in personal liberty.

2. That while we clamor in wordy glorification of the goddess of American liberty on our approaching national holiday, we grovel the rest of the year in humiliating servility before the power of our gracious and imperial Kaiser, the Boss of Pennsylvania.

It is very well known that Lebanon township was not only the oldest township within the present limits of Lebanon county, but that it was older than the county itself, and even older than the town which is now known as the city of Lebanon.

Lebanon township was organized in 1729, contemporaneously with the erection of Lancaster county of which it was a part, and by virtue of the same act of assembly; while the commonly accepted date for the laying out of the village of Lebanon is 1750; tho other dates are given for that important event, varying between 1750 and 1759, in connection with which fact it is only to be remarked that if the town was slow in getting started it has fairly outgrown its early habits. The county of the same name was only formed by act of assembly passed February 16, 1813. Lebanon township originally included not only nearly all of the area embraced within the present limits of Lebanon county but extended considerably over into the adjoining counties of Berks and Dauphin with which our history is so closely associated, and was even older than both these counties, Berks having been organized March 11, 1752, and Dauphin March 4, 1785. The boundaries of Lebanon township as originally formed are defined as follows:

“Beginning under the aforesaid hill, (probably the lower range of the Kittatinny or Blue mountains) at the north east corner of Peshtank (now Paxton) thence by the said hill easterly to the meridian of the west line of Tulpehocken manor; thence southerly and by the said line to the hills bounding Warwick township; thence by the said hills and township westerly to the corner of Derry on Conewago; thence northwardly by Derry and Peshtank to the place of beginning.”

All of what is now Dauphin and Lebanon counties and part of Berks, originally comprised three townships and part of a fourth, of Lancaster county, organized at the time when Lancaster county was formed; namely, Derry, Peshtank and Lebanon, and part of Heidelberg. It would be interesting to trace the lines of all the internal territorial divisions and subdivisions, and to have a series of drafts showing the successive changes, but that were foreign to the purpose and scope of this paper and must make a subject of special treatment and investigation by itself. Without pretence of accuracy it is sufficient to say for the purpose of the present article, that the northwest corner of the township then called Lebanon was somewhere near what is now called Manada Gap; the northeast corner near the point within the present limits of Berks county, between Bethel (Berks) and Tulpehocken townships at the base of the Blue mountain; the southeast corner at the base of the South mountain near the southern end of the division line between South Lebanon and Heidelberg townships; and the southwest corner not far from the present station of Colebrook, in Londonderry township. In the laying out of these primitive divisions natural boundaries were followed for the most part, and it may be stated, roughly speaking, that the original Lebanon township was bounded on the north by the Blue mountains, on the south by the South mountain, on the east and southeast by the Little Swatara and a line in extension of its course to the southwest to meet the southern boundary, and on the west by a chain of creeks comprising for a short distance the Big Swatara as the principal stream, and two of its tributaries,—the Manada creek from the north, and the Quittapahilla from the south reinforced in the same general direction by Killinger's run. This was the original Lebanon township as it was erected in 1729; and as stated it embraced all of the present territory of Lebanon county with the exception of Cold Spring and the mountainous regions in the northern part, the greater part of Londonderry in the southwestern part, and the southeastern corner comprising

the greater parts of Jackson, Heidelberg and Millcreek, which with the Heidelbergs in Berks county together constituted the original township of that name; while at the same time Lebanon township included the greater part of East Hanover in Dauphin, and Bethel in Berks county.

It seems that the next step in the process of township carving was the cutting out from parts of Lebanon and Peshtank townships (still Lancaster county,) of Hanover, then embracing all the territory of what is now East Hanover and Union in Lebanon county, and the three Hanovers—East, West and South in Dauphin county. This took place in 1736-37, nearly fifty years before Dauphin county was organized, and seventy-seven years before the establishment of Lebanon county. This reduced the area of Lebanon township by at least one fifth, and accounts for the crooked northern boundary of North Annville township, which remains in nearly the same condition to the present time, the Swatara being the division line. The new township of Hanover was "divided from Peshtank on the west by Beaver creek, from its mouth to the mountain; from Lebanon on the east and Derry on the south by Swatara creek, from Beaver creek to the forks (of the Swatara), and thence by the north branch thereof, (viz. the Swatara) to the mountain." The division was made on petition, by the Lancaster county court of Quarter Sessions, and the new township was called Hanover. This was in 1737.

Two years later, in May, 1739, the process of territorial segregation was continued by the same court, by a very simple and straight line cutting the remaining portion of Lebanon township in two. This was practically the same line which to-day forms the northern boundary of North Lebanon township; beginning at the Swatara creek a little west of Bunker Hill, only a mile or so from the "forks" above referred to, or in the language of the order of court "at a stony ridge about half a mile below John Tittle's, and continuing along the said ridge easterly to Tulpehocken township." The part lying north of this line was called Bethel township and the southern part retained the name of Lebanon. The latter now embraced all of North and South Annville, all of North and South Lebanon, Cornwall and probably a part of Heidelberg. Bethel included the northern part of Jackson, all of Swatara (including Union), and the two Bethels. These divisions remained undisturbed, continuing as townships of Lancaster county, until 1752, when on March 11th of that year the assembly of the province of Pennsylvania passed an act creating the county of Berks, which reduced Bethel and Lebanon townships by cutting off Bethel in Berks from the former and part of Heidelberg from the latter.

Perhaps the longest straight and continuous county boundary line in Pennsylvania to-day is the line which bounds Lebanon county on the east, and which extends from the northern line of Chester county north west to the southern boundary of Northumberland. It is over a hundred miles long. On the north-east of this line are the long stretches of Berks and Schuylkill counties, separated by it from Lancaster, Lebanon and Dauphin on the southwest. When Berks county was erected in 1752 this line cut Bethel and Heidelberg, up to that time townships in Lancaster county, each in half. The part cut off from Bethel became at once the Bethel in Berks, under the same act, the other remaining the old Bethel in Lancaster; but the inquirer is puzzled for a time to know what became

of the portion of Heidelberg which was cut off by this line, and which remained in the limits of the old county of Lancaster but which from this division had for some time no regular township existence. Five years afterwards, in February 1757, the people of that region took steps for the erection of a new township, alleging in their petition "that there was a considerable body of land lying between the townships of Heidelberg (then the new county of Berks), Lebanon, Warwick and Cocalico, (still in Lancaster) that had not before been erected into or annexed to any township," and praying for a reconstruction of said townships to embrace this territory ; whereupon the court ordered and designated the boundaries of the new township of Heidelberg (in Lancaster) embracing substantially the present territory of Heidelberg, Millcreek and the greater part of Jackson, as follows : "Beginning at the south side of Joseph Kratzer's land bounding upon Lebanon, and extending by the same northerly to Bethel township; thence easterly along Bethel to Tulpehocken township in Berks county; thence by the same to Cocalico township to Valentine Feeman's; thence by the same and by Elizabeth (South Mountain) to the place of beginning."

In September, 1799, Lebanon township, which up to that time included the two Annvilles was divided according to the order of the court, "as nearly as might be for the convenience of the people into two equal parts" with the result that Annville township was formed.

While these are all matters of interest and importance on their own account, they are of value in relation to our subject in settling certain questions which arise in examining into the origin and significance of our township names; for example whether the Lebanon townships were named after the city or town of Lebanon, or after the county, or whether both town and county did not derive their name from the township, which is the fact; whether Bethel township in Berks was named from Bethel in Lebanon, as is the case, or the reverse; whether Heidelberg in Lebanon was named after Heidelberg in Berks, or the latter after the former; which Hanover gave the name to all the others; whether this multiplication of township names throughout neighboring counties resulted from the mere habit of imitation, or whether there were deeper reasons for it; did the village of Annville name the township, or the township the village; questions that could not be settled except by conjecture, without knowing the history of their political development and the order of their establishment. These are facts which are essential to a full appreciation of the origin and significance of our township names.

There were no further changes of townships until the important event of organizing the new county of Lebanon, in 1813. With this change came the further subdivision of the territory, and the new townships of East Hanover, Jackson, Swatara and Londonderry were created at this time. The territory of Lebanon county embraced within Dauphin, had already been separated from Lancaster county by act of assembly of March 4, 1785, which created the county of Dauphin, but that act did not work any change in the township divisions. It was the later separation of Lebanon from Dauphin that occasioned certain changes along the division line, cutting off portions of Derry and Hanover townships and necessitating their reconstruction. The portions cut off became respectively Londonderry and East Hanover townships in the new county of Lebanon. And the better to

meet the purposes of the new county organization and the convenience of the citizens Jackson and Swatara were formed at the same time; Jackson from the southern part of Bethel and the northern part of Heidelberg, and Swatara (then including the greater part of Union), from Bethel. It is well to remember that at the erection of Lebanon county it comprised these eight townships, namely: East Hanover, Swatara, Bethel, Londonderry, Annville, Jackson, Lebanon and Heidelberg. Lebanon was again divided into North and South Lebanon in 1840; Union was separated from Swatara in 1842; Millcreek from Heidelberg in 1844; Annville divided into North and South in 1845; Cold Spring separated from Union and Bethel, and Cornwall from South Lebanon in 1853.

LEBANON.

Just why the name Lebanon was at first selected for all this region of country, and by whom, and under what circumstances appear to be things lost to history. There is no clear light to illuminate these questions. Of course one can't go amiss to say that the name is of scriptural origin, and that the Semitic root of the word means "white;" but for what reason it was applied to the subject in question is a matter for speculation tho not for historical statement. The Bible-land of Syria is traversed by a mountain range running northeast and southwest, of which the general name is Lebanon. In Greek the northernmost range was called Libanos, the southernmost Anti-Libanos. The southern extremity of the latter is Mount Hermon, generally credited to be the "high mountain" near Cæsarea Philippi, where the Transfiguration occurred. (Mark ix,-2). There is a beautiful valley 15 to 25 miles wide lying between the two ranges, and the picturesque effect upon the beholder is thus described: "In general the main elevation of the two ranges form pairs lying opposite one another; the forms of both ranges are monotonous, but the coloring is splendid, especially when viewed from a distance; when seen close at hand indeed, the valleys with perennial streams offer pictures of landscape beauty, their rich green contrasting pleasantly with the bare brown and yellow mountain sides."

Crossing over the southern range, and beholding the fair Lebanon valley stretching before the enraptured eye like a garden of the Lord, perhaps some pious or adventurous spirit was reminded thro imagination or memory of this picture in the Holy Land, by the fancied similarity which the scene before him suggested. Perhaps the distant Blue ridge, partly shrouded in mist or glittering in the sun looked like the snow-capped range of Syria in its whiteness; perhaps the virgin forests of the landscape in their majestic beauty called to the beholder's mind the noble "cedars of Lebanon." Most likely some one simply wanted a name for one of the original townships of Lancaster county when that principality was severed from Chester, and it was christened "Lebanon" for no other reason than that it was not named something else.

HANOVER.

There can be no doubt that Hanover was named after the German kingdom of Hanover, whether directly by some loyal son, or indirectly, by way of England, is not certain. The Hanoverian dynasty is the reigning family of Great Britain, descended from Sophia, grand daughter of King James I, of England, and Earnest

August, duke of Calenberg, whose son, Georg Ludwig, was elector of Lueneburg, and became George I, of England. Dauphin county does not plume itself nearly so much on its English descent, as it does upon its connection with the illustrious clans of the Campbells and the aristocratic house of McIlhenny. It showed its fondness for royalty when it selected the title of the oldest son of the king of France for its name; tho it would hardly own the imputation that in the choice of the name Hanover the inhabitants might have meant to convey some covert tory predelictions for King George, III, of the house of Hanover, in the divers misunderstandings which the colonists had with that gentleman, because it was too early. Looking over the list of warrantees of land in Hanover township about the time of its formation we find such unmistakably German names as Becker, Eckart, Heenigher, Hummil, Hammacher, Hess, Hauer, Kauffman, Kreiser, Leidich, Mark, Moyer, Meily, Rudy, Reis, Reighert, Seipert, Siesse, Stultz, Sebel, Sieg, Sherrick, Utzman, Walmer, Wagonaar and Zug; and it is altogether more likely that the name was given in direct honor of what was then the kingdom of Hanover, probably by one of the early settlers who had emigrated from that part of the Fatherland.

BETHEL.

The origin of the name Bethel is probably freer from uncertainty than any other of the earlier townships. The Moravians settled within the limits of what was then Bethel, now Swatara township, not far from Lickdale, about the time the township was formed. The Moravian settlements at Bethlehem and Nazareth were founded under the guidance of Bishop David Nitschman and Count Zinzendorf. Members of these settlements soon penetrated thro the wilderness along the base of the Blue mountains, westward as far as the station on the Swatara already mentioned. The first pastor was the Rev. Johannes Brandmueller. The place was at once named Beth-El, or house of God. When in my early youth I used to hear the place referred to in the current vernacular of the neighborhood as "die Bettel Kerch," which term from its similarity to the other German word *betteln*, conveyed the meaning of "the begging church," I used to wonder in what respects it differed from others. The first house of worship was a one-story log house which was within a few years used as a farm house, and is still standing, altho both it and the graveyard are in a very neglected condition. A later structure of brick supplanted the older building, which still goes by the name of "Bettel Kerch," tho it is no longer a Moravian sanctuary, that church and congregation having long since died out. It is a "union" church where all denominations find liberty of expression. One of the writer's early ancestors, his paternal great-grandfather on his grandmother's side,—Peter Fuehrer by name, when quite a young man joined his fortunes with this, one of the earliest settlements within the limits of Lebanon county, and was without a doubt one of the earliest of the pioneer school teachers of this region. As was the custom and the duty of the Herrnhutter pastors, the men in charge of this little mission kept a faithful record of important events, with reference to the family, the church, and the community. These records are fortunately still extant, and in the custody of the Moravian pastor at Lebanon, and when properly elaborated will form a most valuable and interesting chapter of local history.

HEIDELBERG.

Equally certain with the origin of Bethel is the name of Heidelberg. There can be no question that this township was named after the beautiful town of the Palatinate, on the Neckar. Indeed it seems to be a well settled and authenticated fact of history that Alexander Schaeffer, the founder, came from Heidelberg and desired to honor the place of his birth by naming his settlement in the new world after it. Schaefferstown itself at one time bore the name which was afterward transferred to the whole local region, both in this county and in Berks. Heidelberg was the capital of the ancient duchy or electorate of the Palatinate, now alas! only a historical name. From here and the surrounding vicinity for the most part came that sturdy German peasant stock who settled Pennsylvania, and thence penetrated to many other regions of the new world; and therefore Heidelberg and the Palatinate possess a double interest to their descendants; and they may well feel an interest and a pride in their ancestry, their ancestry's history, and their ancestry's dwelling place. There are sometimes invidious comparisons made between the north and south Germans, to the prejudice of the latter. The north Germans are fond of arrogating to themselves a superior culture and a higher intelligence. Because by accident the dialect of the Northern provinces became the classical language of the nation rather than that of the southern, they are sometimes given to putting on airs of imaginary superiority, for it is not real. It is safe to say, and the evidence is palpable on both sides, that the commingling of blood between the Teutonic and the Latin races which took place along the border resulted in an improved manhood on both sides. The north Italian of Florence and Milan is far superior to the genuine Dago of the southern cities, and a similar counter effect was produced upon the south German. The type of countenance that prevails in the southern cities of Germany to my mind is far more refined, more intellectual and more handsome, and less distinctively of that broad-featured, decided Prussian cast, which proclaims the race at a glance. Certain it is that after one visits the Palatinate he is convinced that it is the garden-spot of Germany with unrivalled beauty of natural scenery. Certain it is that after one sees Heidelberg from the surrounding mountain heights looking up and down the sunlit valley, with the noble ruins of the old castle on the one hand, and the gabled houses, the tiled roofs, the old church towers, the narrow, winding streets of the old university town on the other, with the Neckar, like a ribbon of silver embroidering the skirts of the town, and the castle, like a crown of majesty ornamenting her brow, he is convinced that Heidelberg is the queen of the Palatinate. And certain it is that when one recalls the history of the people who have lived there, and contemplates their achievements, both in a material and a spiritual sense,—their struggles and their victories over the forces that sought to enslave their bodies and minds and rob them alike of their worldly possessions and their freedom of thought and of worship, who would brave the unknown dangers of the sea and of the wilderness rather than yield their independence of spirit, one is convinced if he knew it not before, that the descendants of these people in Pennsylvania have a heritage of birth and a nobility of ancestry to which all Europe and the whole world can furnish no superior. Heidelberg was no doubt named after the old Heidelberg castle which

is truly said to be the finest of European ruins, and perhaps by reason of its historical connection with this part of our subject the society may pardon a personal impression of it. It still preserves enough of its colossal magnificence to convey a very good idea of the sort of place it must have been. High up on the hillside overlooking the narrow valley of the Neckar near its junction with the storied Rhine the projectors of this old Schloss, for it was truly a schloss against all intruders, fortified themselves against all the world as they thought, commanding every approach in absolute security for those times, and in truly regal magnificence. Back of it on the one side the wooded mountain of Koenigsthul rises hundreds of feet higher on the verge of the Black forest which begins here and stretches to the southwest, a dense wilderness for many miles. Against approaches from this side the castle is well protected by moats and drawbridges, and higher up in the mountain was constructed a reservoir from which the moat could be filled in a short time cutting off approaching enemies, or drowning them out like rats if they ventured to cross. From outlooks on the mountains were secret passages communicating with the interior of the castle to give quick warning of danger, and there were dungeons and deep wells to imprison and drown dangerous captives. On the other sides overlooking the valley up and down there were guns and cannons on rampart and turret to guard the stronghold there, making for the time as impregnable a fortress as hand of man, strongly aided by nature could devise. And the size of it! It was large enough to quarter the whole town, with its towers and balconies, wings and additions built irregularly around a large court which the visitor enters by a gateway thro the Brueckenhaus outside of the moat, then across the draw-bridge thro an inner gateway under the Thor-thurm, over which hang suspended the savage, rusty iron teeth of the frowning portcullis. And all around the outside of the castle walls and still high above the valley below are broad paved balconies, again walled in by thick parapets and lookout towers at intervals. It is plain to see that the men who projected and held and occupied this stronghold from time to time were men of vast power for those days. Here among many other things of greater or less interest one is shown the far-famed Grosse Heidelberger Fass or monster tun about 24 feet high with a capacity of 50,000 gallons. Think of the royal thirst and capacity of the bibulous monarch who was the builder, projector and patron of this gigantic Fass! It isn't recorded whether he died of the gout, apoplexy or the jim-jams but tradition has it that the Fass was thrice emptied. With this monster hogshead of wine in the king's cellar one need not look for special reasons for the decline of this once strong house, but other reasons did exist. The Reformation found many adherents throughout the Palatinate. Here Luther held some of his famous disputations at a convention of Augustin friars, and several of the kings were ardent supporters of the Augsburg confession. There is a church pointed out now in the town of Heidelberg—the Heilig-Geist Kirche where Protestant service was first held, and it is the only church I ever heard of in which Protestants and Catholics worship, if not exactly side by side, at least under the same roof. Here also I need hardly mention, was published the celebrated Heidelberg catechism still used by the German Reformed church in Lebanon county. The religious disturbances caused

by the Reformation threw this whole region into continuous turmoil, and the ravages and beastly atrocities of the Thirty Years' war fell upon the Palatinate with a heavy hand. Again and again it was ravaged by hostile troops, towns plundered, houses burned, people massacred, first by Tully, afterward by Gallas and again by Turenne. A daughter of Ludwig, one of the Palatine kings, married the duke of Orleans, who was a brother of Louis XIV of France. Relying upon this relationship, Louis wanted Ludwig to join him as an ally against his own country in the incessant wars between France and Germany. To his credit be it said he refused, but his people paid the penalty in the frightful ravages of the French army under Turenne. When this line expired with the death of Ludwig's son, Louis XIV laid claims to the succession on account of his brother's marriage to Ludwig's daughter, and this brought on fresh troubles. A treaty of capitulation was finally agreed upon only to be violated by the treacherous Louis, and on his revocation of the Edict of Nantes unbounded license was once more given the French soldiers under Melac to lay waste the country, plunder the city and destroy the castle. It was under these conditions that many of the inhabitants fled to the new world, and it was these terrible persecutions that impelled that general exodus from South Germany to Pennsylvania which so strongly influenced the history of our state and nation and the fortunes of the descendants of those people among which most of the people of Lebanon county are numbered.

ANNVILLE.

Of all subjects pertaining to our county history there is none shrouded in so much obscurity as the origin of the name of Annville. The most diligent inquiry brought forth no really authentic explanation. The village itself was laid out in 1762 by Abraham Miller, eldest son of Andrew Miller. It was added to a little later by Martin Ulrich and Abraham Raiguel who owned adjacent tracts, and these three are usually given as the founders of the town. The township known by the same name was only erected in 1799. For many years, almost a century perhaps, the village was called Millerstown; in fact this name was only abandoned within the memory of the present generation. The question arises, was the name first applied to the township or first to the village? Egle takes the latter view in which he is followed by Croll, and this seems to us to be correct. We were about to be content with giving the various traditional stories that were offered in explanation of the question, some of which seemed too unlikely to receive place in a historical paper, until this very morning I learned the following explanation from our worthy president, Mr. Grittinger, which seems the most reasonable and therefore the most likely, and which until something is offered to show its incorrectness I shall adopt as the true one. What gives it authenticity is the fact that Mr. Grittinger offers it as the statement of his father Mr. Adam Grittinger than whom no better authority on a question of this sort could be desired. It is to the effect that Abraham Miller's wife was named Ann, and that the founder of this beautiful town showed himself to be a man of gallantry and courage unusual for those days to venture to show such high honor to a woman as to name a town after her. There is another story to the effect that there was a woman living in that community noted for her kindness and philanthropy whose surname was Ann, and that because she was held in

such high regard by all the people the village was named after her ; but this version is not necessarily inconsistent with the former, except that it was the woman's given name and not her surname that was thus immortalized. Perhaps the sentiment against the advanced woman was too strong in those early days to perpetuate the honor of Ann, and the populace at large revolted by falling back upon the husband's name ; if so Providence in the shape of postal confusion interfered in behalf of the woman, and after a century of neglect restored her ancient glory. It seems highly probable that the village was first named Annville ; in fact it appears so in ancient title papers, tho under a different orthography, which doubtlessly gave rise to the improbable blacksmith's "anvil" story and that the township adopted the same name when it was created in 1799, altho the village had then abandoned the name for Millerstown, and afterwards readopted it.

LONDONDERRY.

Londonderry is the name of a county as well as of a city in the north of Ireland, in the province of Ulster. In examining the derivative history of this name one finds that it is used interchangeably with Derry, the latter being the original form of the name, derived from *Doire* which means the "place of oaks." A monastery was founded there in A. D. 546, and for a century or two, from the 9th to the 11th, was for the most part in possession of the Danes. Sometime in the 17th century the Irish society of London obtained possession of it and incorporated the town under the name of Londonderry. That is how Derry came to be changed to Londonderry, and there can be no doubt that some of our Irish settlers brought the name of their birth place to be perpetuated on this side of the water, in the name of several of our Dauphin and Lebanon county townships.

JACKSON.

Jackson was formed in 1813 with the new county. It was named after Andrew Jackson, who afterwards became the seventh president of the United States, and who was chiefly celebrated for three things : for being known as "Old Hickory," for swearing "by the eternal," and for inaugurating the spoils system in our American politics. For this last reason it is gratifying to note that the township was named before he was president, in honor rather of the fighting qualities of the old warrior than as a mark of esteem for his statesmanship.

UNION.

One wonders what occasion there could have been in 1842 to call a new township by the name of "Union." While the questions which nearly twenty years later led to an open rupture between the North and the South were agitated many years before, no one seriously considered at that time that our federal Union of states would be assailed with the weapons of secession ; and "The Union Forever" only became the battle-cry of a later day. There was, however, a number of years before that time, brought to successful completion the important enterprise known as the Union canal, which brought great commercial and industrial activity to that region of the county ; and when the citizens looked about for a name for their new county they could not well find anything more suitable to name it after than the new water high-way which had brought them so much prosperity.

CORNWALL.

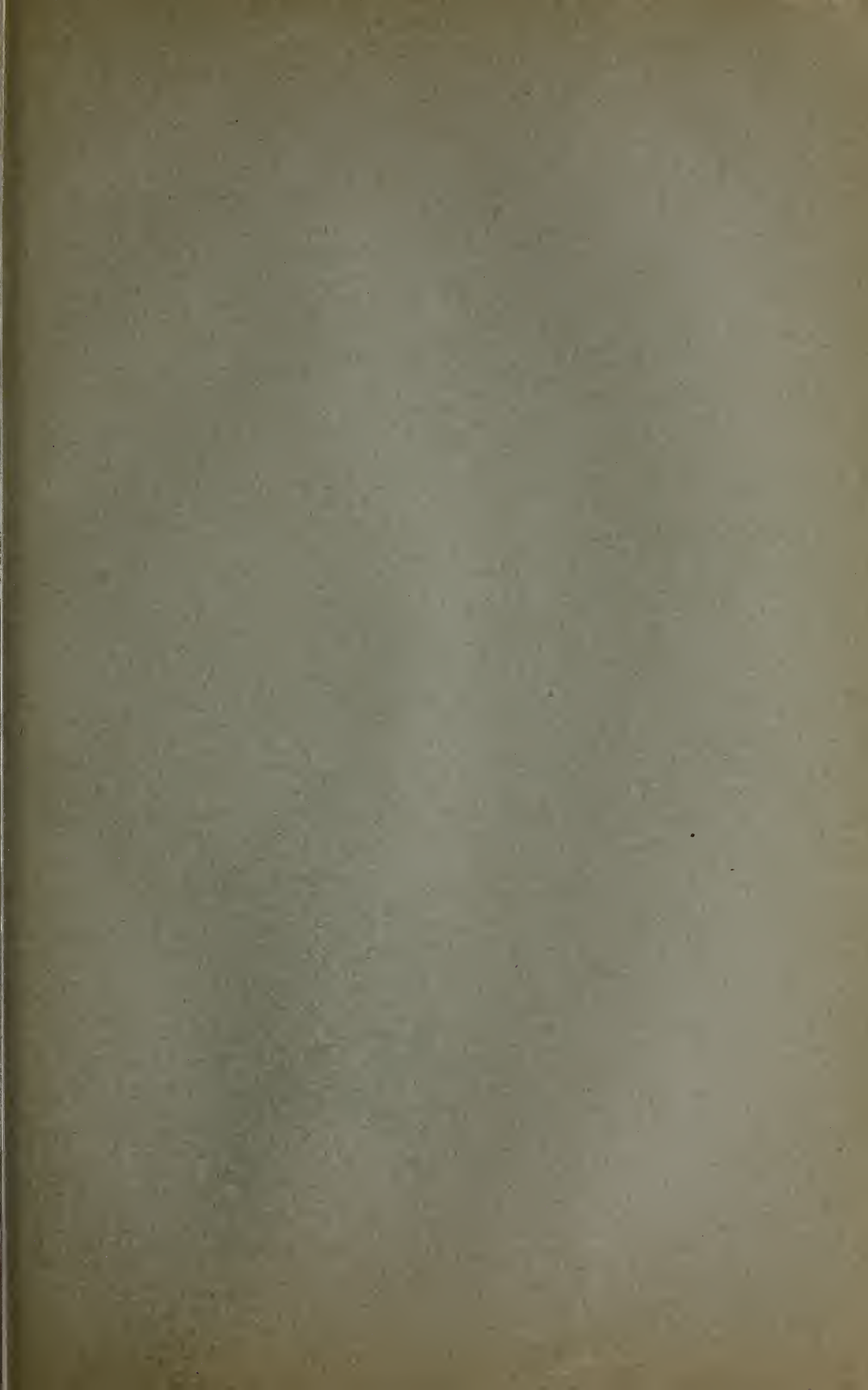
Cornwall was a name that was ready-made for the new township that was cut off from South Lebanon in 1853. From time immemorial the iron mines there were known by that name, and from these it spread to the settlement which sprung up there, and to the post office later, and to the several townships which now bear it. It goes without saying that the name is derived from Cornwall in England, and that it was adopted on account of the mineral treasure that made the place famous the world over.

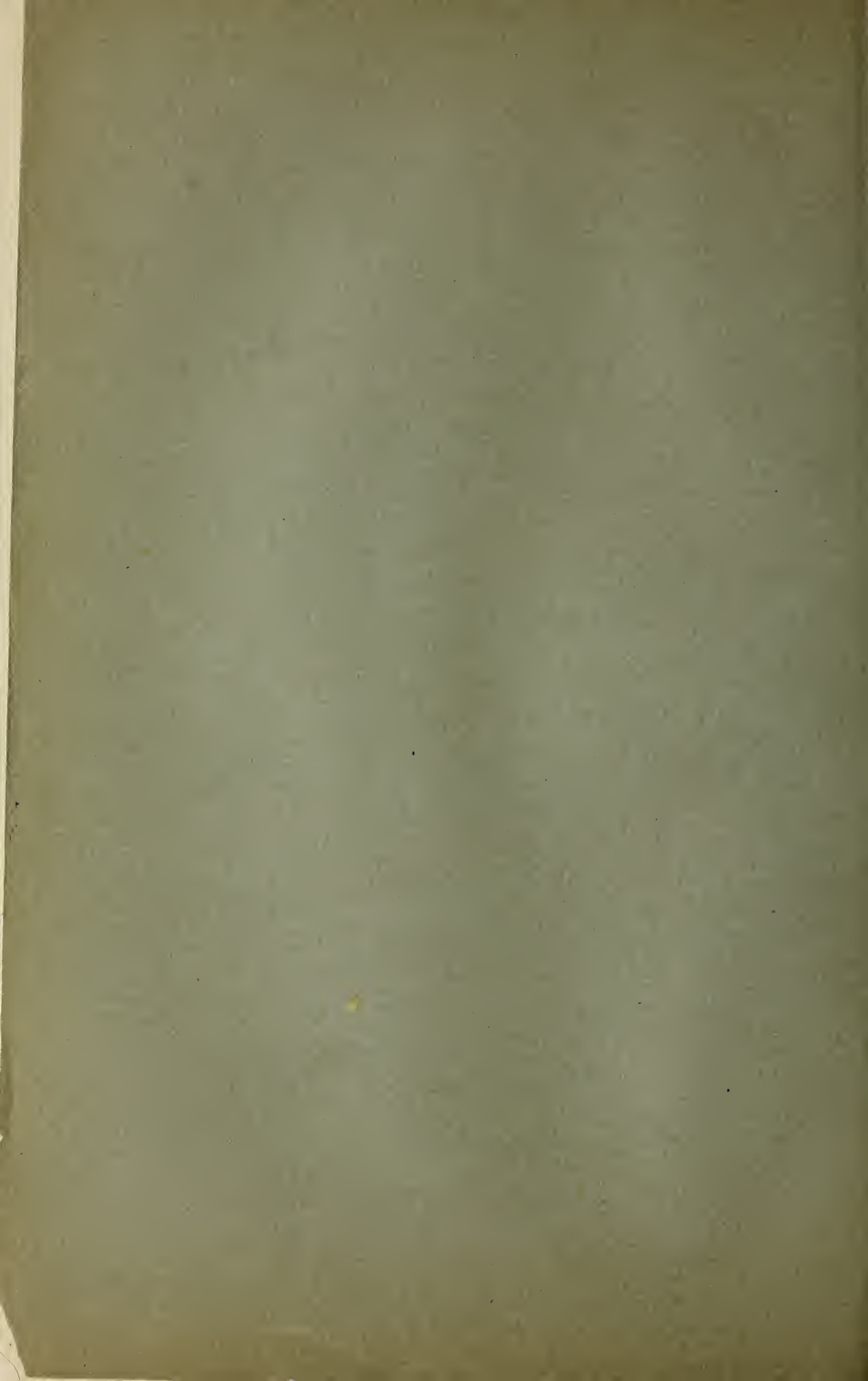
SWATARA, MILLCREEK AND COLD SPRING.

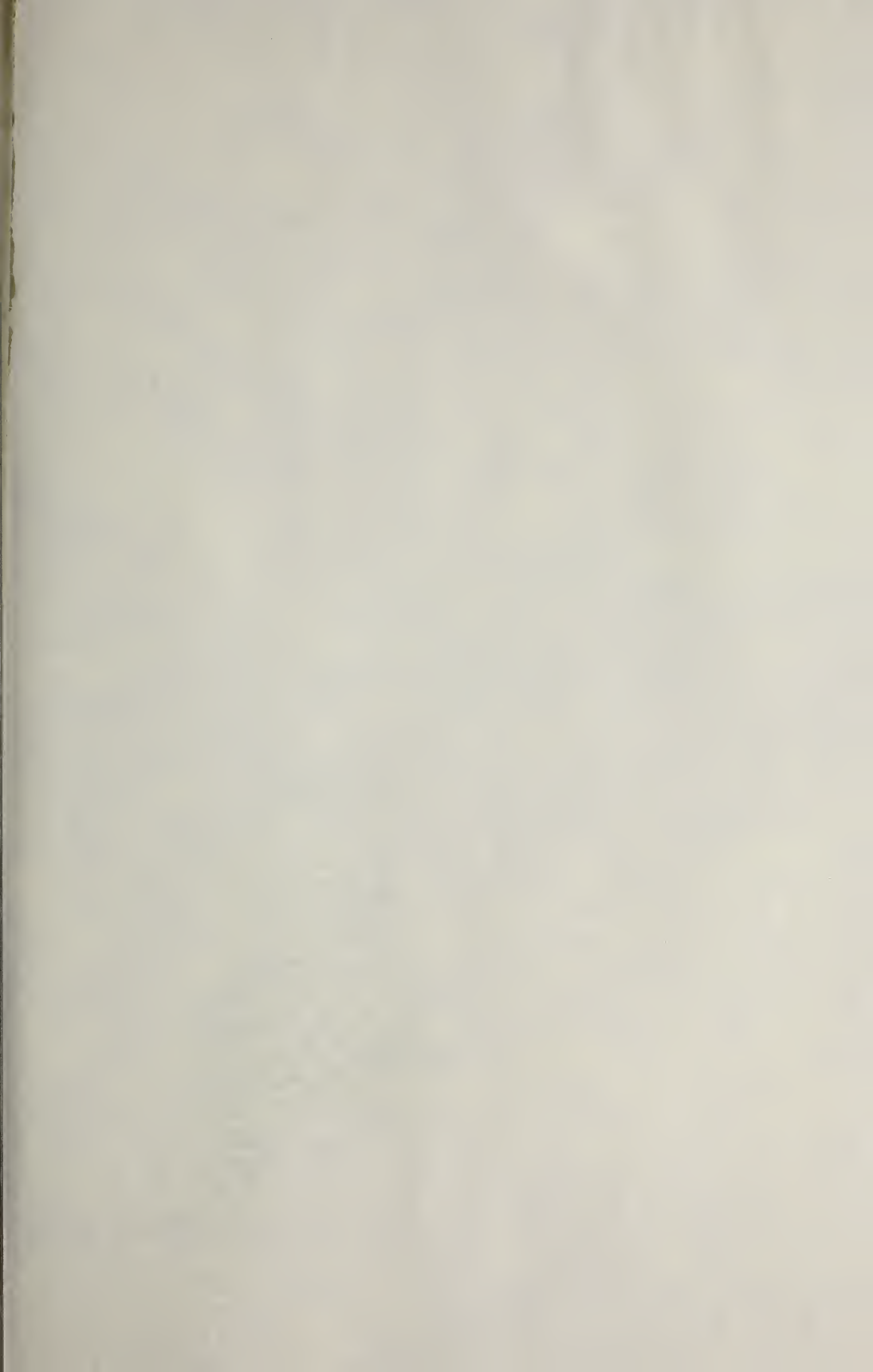
The three remaining townships in the county are the only ones that derive their names from some natural feature within their limits,—Swatara, Millcreek and Cold Spring; Swatara from the creek by that name which is said to be an Indian word and is customarily translated to mean the place of eels, or slippery creatures!

Millcreek, the English for Muehlbach by which name it was long known is of course named from this stream. It is the principal stream of that region, early becoming celebrated by reason of the mills built upon its course,—the first one in 1778. The township was formed in 1844.

Cold Spring in the extreme northern part of the county, is very simply named from a celebrated spring within its limits, noted among other valuable properties for its coldness, and the place is frequented on account of it to a greater or less extent as a summer resort.







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